

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SS-15 AID-20 NSC-10 L-03

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EA/VN:RHWENZEL

S/S:MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USDEL JEC PARIS

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AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING

S E C R E T STATE 157018

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, VN, US
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NORTH VIET-NAM

1. THE PRESIDENT HAS CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND TRADE CONCESSIONS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. THE FOLLOWING POSITION SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED, ORALLY AND IN CONFIDENCE, SHOULD HOST COUNTRY (ACTION ADDRESSEES) RAISE THE SUBJECT. INFO ADDRESSEES MAY ALSO AT THEIR DISCRETION DRAW UPON THIS MATERIAL.

THE UNITED STATES HAS HELD INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DRV CONCERNING THEIR RECONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS. THE PRESIDENT IS PREPARED TO RECOMMEND TO THE CONGRESS A SUBSTANTIAL U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE DRV'S RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM WHEN HANOI IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE JANUARY 27 AGREEMENT. BUT UNTIL THAT TIME WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT PROMOTES THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN INDOCHINA TO EXTEND AID TO NORTH VIET-NAM.

OTHER COUNTRIES MUST OBVIOUSLY MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS ON THIS SUBJECT; HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT HANOI'S FAILURE TO REMOVE ITS TROOPS FROM CAMBODIA AND LAOS SHOULD BE WEIGHED IN SUCH A DECISION.

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT ECONOMIC AID TO SOUTH VIET-NAM WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE SUCH AID BY OTHERS. THEREFORE, WHILE WE WOULD PREFER THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DRV

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ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND TRADE CONCESSIONS BE POSTPONED, WE WILL NOT OBJECT TO SUCH DISCUSSIONS WITH HANOI IF THEIR POSTPONEMENT WOULD IMPEDE EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE SOUTH. ROGERS

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NNN

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